

additional and potentially precious time in rendering confirming analysis or diagnosis so that the treatment and care of the patient can continue.

[0012] What is needed therefore is a form that meets the information recordation needs of the emergency personnel as well as tracks the patient and related information through the handling and transportation process so as to overcome the difficulties of separation and loss health care data.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0013] The embodiments of the present invention described below are not intended to be exhaustive or to limit the invention to the precise forms disclosed in the following detailed description. Rather, the embodiments are chosen and described so that others skilled in the art may appreciate and understand the principles and practices of the present invention.

[0014] The present invention is a combination medical business form assembly in which a construction is provided that has an information recordation section or portion and a patient identification section or portion. The business form assembly of the present invention is constructed from a weather and tear resistant material and is provided with one or more removable and matching indicia sections to aid in the treatment of the patient through the care system or arrangement.

[0015] In one exemplary embodiment of the present invention, an emergency medical treatment combination form, is provided and includes a substantially planar substrate having first and second portions that are connected to one another. The first portion of the construction is adapted to receive patient information related to the initial condition of the individual. The first portion has a first face and a second face with the first face having a number of patient information recordation areas that relate to a condition of a patient. The first portion has top and bottom ends and first and second sides. One of the first and second portion is provided with at least one removable pressure sensitive label.

[0016] The medical emergency form of the presently described embodiment is also provided top and bottom ends and first and second sides and is joined to said first portion along one of said sides or ends. The second portion that has an outer section and an inner section, the inner section is separable from the outer section in order to create a patient identification piece.

[0017] In a still further exemplary embodiment a triage business form is provided and includes a first part that has front and back faces, first and second sides and top and bottom ends. The first part of the triage business form has a first dimension that includes a longitudinal direction and transverse direction. The first part also has at least one area for immediate diagnosis of a patient and another area for providing treatment information.

[0018] Still continuing with a discussion of the presently described embodiment, a second part is provided and has front and back faces, first and second sides and top and bottom ends. The second part of the triage business form is connected to the first part along one of the sides or ends. The second part has a second dimension that includes a longitudinal direction and a transverse direction. The dimension

of the second part is less than the dimension of the first part in one of the longitudinal or transverse directions and preferably in the transverse direction. That is, the second part has the dimension in the longitudinal direction (the lengths of the sides are substantially equal) that is substantially equal to the longitudinal direction of the first part. Whereas, the transverse direction of the first part is longer than the transverse direction (top or bottom end) of the second part.

[0019] The second part of the triage business form of this presently described embodiment also includes a detachable patient identification band, but may also include other detachable patient identification pieces or elements such as tags, labels, hang tags, buttons and the like.

[0020] Each of the first and second parts as well as the patient identification pieces may be provided with matching indicia, that may be human and/or machine readable information so as to facilitate the tracking and matching of the information to the patient or individual.

[0021] In yet a still further exemplary embodiment of the present invention, triage tag and specimen collection piece kit, is provided with a number of component parts. One component is a triage tag that has first and second parts, one of the parts has at least one removable patient identification piece that is selected from a group including bands, tags, labels, buttons and combinations thereof. The first part also has areas that are used for recording emergency patient diagnosis information.

[0022] Continuing with a description of the presently described kit embodiment, a specimen collection piece is included which has a relatively rigid portion and an absorbent portion. The absorbent portion is used for collecting a biological specimen. The components of this kit embodiment are held by a container which includes at least one triage tag and the specimen collection piece.

[0023] The embodiments described above may also include a second part that has an area that is less than the area of the first part. In addition, a pressure sensitive label as well as other patient identification pieces, including tags, hang tags, buttons, and combinations thereof may be included on one or both parts of the form assembly.

[0024] In those examples where the triage form of the present invention includes a specimen collection component, the component will typically have a generally rigid portion and an absorbent portion. The specimen collection component may also include a separate collection tool such as a swab, wipe, cups, syringes and the like.

[0025] In each of the foregoing embodiments, each of the form or kit components may be provided, printed or imaged with matching information (human and/or machine readable) so that the components of the form, patient identification and kit may be matched and more readily tracked through the transportation and handling of the patient.

[0026] In a yet still further embodiment of the present invention, a method of using a triage form and patient identification band, is described and includes the steps of initially obtaining a triage form and patient identification band. The form has first and second parts with the first part containing at least first and second distinct areas for retaining patient information. The second part has a detachable band.